

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)	
)	
Annual Assessment of the Status of)	MB Docket No. 12-203
Competition in the Market for the)	
Delivery of Video Programming)	

**COMMENTS OF
Sacramento Community Cable Foundation
D.B.A. Access Sacramento**

Access Sacramento submits these comments in response to the above-captioned Notice of Inquiry (“NOI”), released July 20, 2012, seeking “data, information, and comment on the state of competition in the delivery of video programming.”

Access Sacramento is a California nonprofit corporation 501(c)(3) managing the public access cable channels 17 & 18 as a community media center in the County of Sacramento, California. We are dedicated to providing the base necessities for functioning community media – physical space, staff, up-to-date equipment, local governance, broad multimedia training.

1. Comcast provides seven cable channels for use by five different agencies in Sacramento County: KVIE PBS (cable channel 7), Sacramento Metropolitan Cable Television Commission (Metro 14), Sacramento Educational Cable Consortium (cable channels 15 & 16), Access Sacramento (cable channels 17 & 18), and The Religious Coalition for Cable Television (cable channel 20).
2. These channels are placed on the lowest tier of cable provided. However, it is a standard definition channel tier on the digital service, separate from the majority of high definition cable channels.
3. There are the same number of channels today (seven) as were carried June of 2010.
4. There are three cable systems carrying our channels in Sacramento County. Comcast shares our programming schedule on the system’s on-screen program guide. SureWest shares channel 18 but not 17 content on the programming guide. AT&T U-Verse does not carry our programming guide for either channel. Additionally, cable subscribers navigate to our web site to view our programming schedule.
5. We are in an AT&T U-Verse community. The use of the cumbersome Channel 99 pull-down menu makes finding our channel extremely difficult. Anecdotal evidence indicates most AT&T users are not even aware of the community channels.
6. PEG programming has remained essentially the same in Sacramento County. However,

additional revenue is now being collected under the Digital Infrastructure Video Competition Act (DIVCA) – the California State Cable Franchising law of 2007. The County collects an additional 1% of the gross cable revenues (in addition to the 5% franchise fee) that must be utilized exclusively for PEG organization related equipment purchasing and leasing. With these additional funds, the PEG organizations have been able to replace and upgrade production equipment over the past three years.

These DIVCA related equipment improvements include: construction of “BestNet” broadband connectivity for all the schools in Sacramento County; wiring and television production equipment for all six City Halls and the Board of Supervisors chambers; upgrade television production equipment for KVIE PBS and Access Sacramento; and the creation of Access Sacramento’s Neighborhood News Bureaus and the aggregated web site www.AccessLocal.tv bridging the traditional cable program delivery and new broadband possibilities.

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